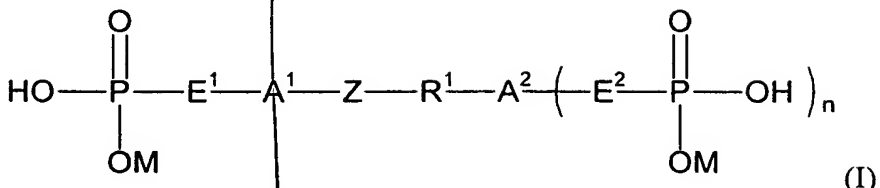
What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

where:

A^1 and A^2 are the same or different aryl groups collectively bearing at least one hydrophilic substituent;

E^1 and E^2 are the same or different and are O, S, or NR^2 (where R^2 is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group);

M is H or a pharmaceutically acceptable monovalent cation;

R^1 is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group;

Z is a single bond, a carbonyl, CE^3E^4, or CR^3E^3, where

E^3 and E^4 are the same or different and are OR^4, SR^4, or NR^4_2, where

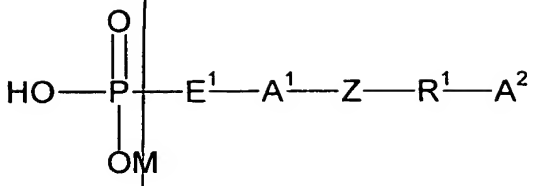
R^3 is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group, and

R^4 is H or a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group; and

n is 0 or 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

provided that the compound is not 4′-phosphophloretin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The compound of Claim 1 that is a compound of formula (Ia):

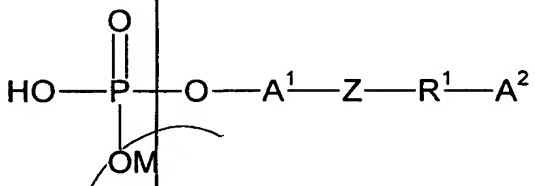


(Ia)

where:

A^1, A^2, E^1, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, provided that the compound is not 4′-phosphophloretin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The compound of Claim 1 that is a compound of formula (Ib):

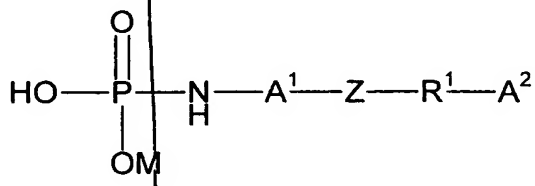


(Ib)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, provided that the compound is not 4′-phosphophloretin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The compound of Claim 1 that is a compound of formula (Ic):

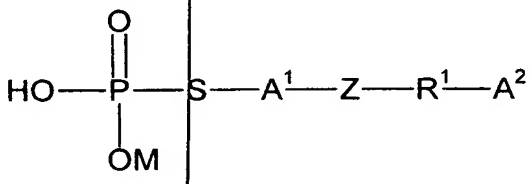


(Ic)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. The compound of claim 1 that is a compound of formula (Id):

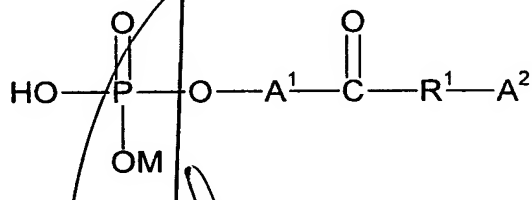


(Id)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. The compound of claim 1 that is a compound of formula (Ie):

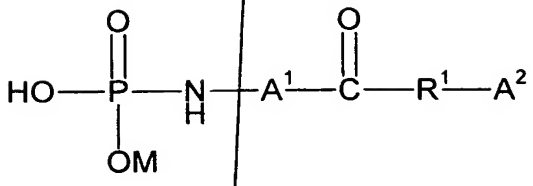


(Ie)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, and R^1 are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, provided that the compound is not 4′-phosphophloretin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. The compound of claim 1 that is a compound of formula (If):

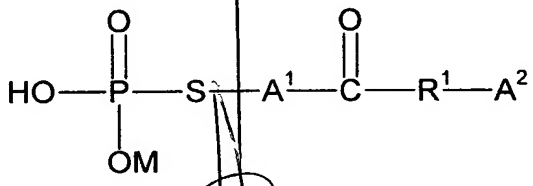


(If)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, and R^1 are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. The compound of claim 1 that is a compound of formula (Ig):



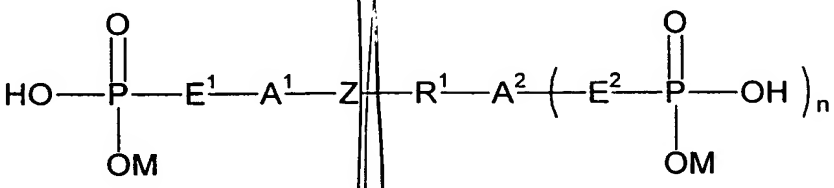
(Ig)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, and R^1 are as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

9. The compound of Claim 1 that is 2′-phosphophloretin, 2′-thiophosphophloretin or 2′-aminophosphophloretin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A medication comprising a carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

where:

A^1 and A^2 are the same or different aryl groups collectively bearing at least one hydrophilic substituent;

E^1 and E^2 are the same or different and are O, S, or NR^2 (where R^2 is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group);

M is H or a pharmaceutically acceptable monovalent cation;

R^1 is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group;

Z is a single bond, a carbonyl, CE^3E^4, or CR^3E^3, where

E^3 and E^4 are the same or different and are OR^4, SR^4, or NR^4_2, where

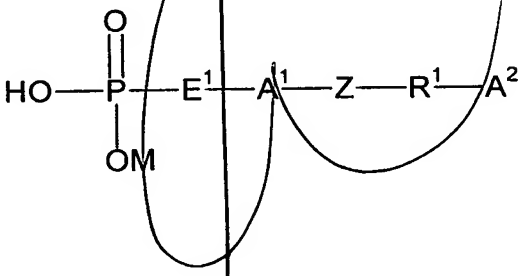
R^3 is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group, and

R^4 is H or a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group; and

n is 0 or 1,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (Ia):

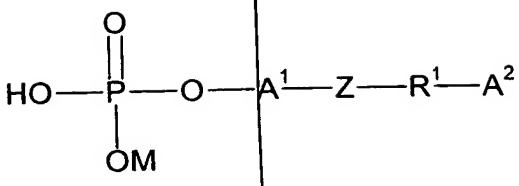


(Ia)

where:

A^1, A^2, E^1, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (Ib):

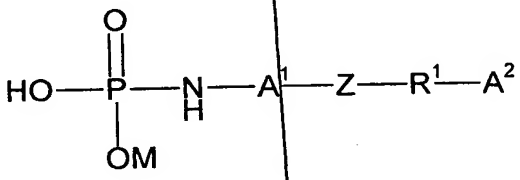


(Ib)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (Ic):

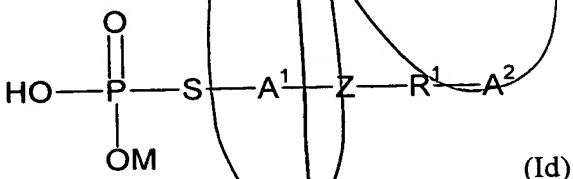


(Ic)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (Id):

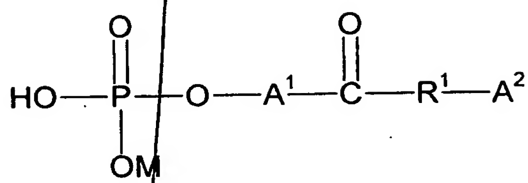


(Id)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (Ie):

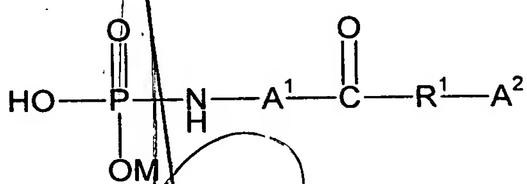


(Ie)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, and R^1 are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (If):

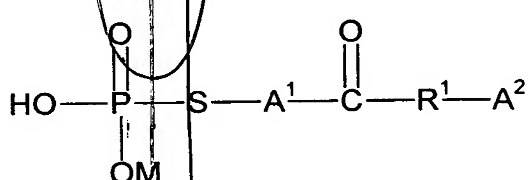


(If)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, and R^1 are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is a compound of formula (Ig):



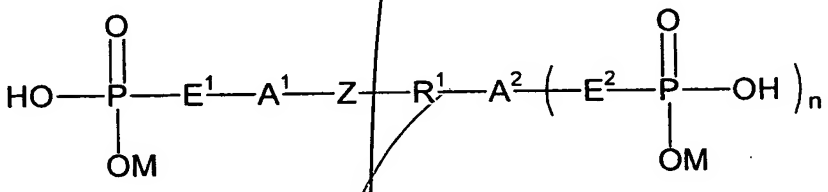
(Ig)

where:

A^1, A^2, M, and R^1 are as defined in Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18. The medication of Claim 10 where the compound is 2′-phosphophloretin, 2′-thiophosphophloretin or 2′-aminophosphophloretin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19. A method of inhibiting sodium-mediated phosphate uptake, reducing serum PTH, calcium, calcitriol, or phosphate, or treating renal disease, comprising administration of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

where:

A^1 and A^2 are the same or different aryl groups collectively bearing at least one hydrophilic substituent;

E^1 and E^2 are the same or different and are O, S, or NR^2 (where R^2 is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group);

M is H or a pharmaceutically acceptable monovalent cation;

R^1 is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group;

Z is a single bond, a carbonyl, CE^3E^4, or CR^3E^3, where

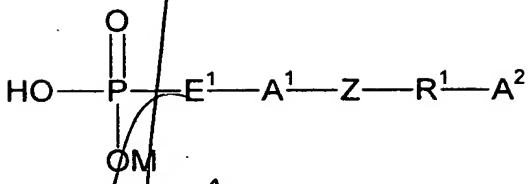
E^3 and E^4 are the same or different and are OR^4, SR^4, or NR^4_2, where

R^3 is a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group, and

R^4 is H or a linear or branched C_1-C_{20} carbon containing group; and

n is 0 or 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. The method of Claim 19 where the compound is a compound of formula (Ia):



(Ia)

where:

A^1, A^2, E^1, M, R^1 and Z are as defined in Claim 19, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.